Greenbrier Independent.

THURSDAY, NOV. 30TH, 1899.

LOCAL MATTERS.

BRING your produce to J. A.

READ Duffy, Dwyer & Co.'s new advertisement in another column.

BRICK-LAYERS WANTED.—Apply to Thos. Luke, West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co., Covington, Va.

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Benediction at the end of the late service. No services in the afternoon.

CHAS. F. SCHILPP, Rector.

A Comrade's Tribute to Capt. McNeel.

WACO, TEXAS, Nov. 6th, 1899. Editor Greenbrier Independent:

My brother, the Rev. Geo. T. Lyle, kindly sent me a copy of the INDE-PENDENT of October 26th, containing a notice of the death of Captain Wm. L. McNeel, of Pocahontas county. I ask space to pay a tribute to the memory of a comrade whom all of Wm. L. Jackson's cavalry brigade greatly loved and admired. He had a heart as big as a house, and, as an officer, he had skill and courage excelled by few,

We first met when the 19th Virginia cavalry regiment, in which he was a captain, was organized in the spring of 1863 at Frankford. He was then a man in middle life, myself in the first years of manhood, yet a friendship sprung up that death alone could end. Such was the charm of the man that he won and held the loye and esteem of young and old.

The brigade spent the balance of 1863 in Pheahontas county guarding that portion of the Confederate lines, and it was my good fortune frequently to enjoy the hospitality of his home. His genial disposition filled it with sun-

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The brigade spent the balance of 1863 in Pheahontas county guarding that portion of the Confederate lines, and it was my good fortune frequently to enjoy the hospitality of his home. His genial disposition filled it with sunshine. To be with him was to enjoy contentment and happiness.

Space does not permit me to enter upon an extended account of his military career. It is enough to say that he was ever faithful and true, and his superior officers relied upon him with a confidence that was blindfold. He was the best captain in the brigade, and it had many splendid men of that rank.

During Early's campaign in the Valley of Virginia in 1864, he, much of the time, commanded the regiment as senior captain. And he handled it with a skill that ought to have been rewarded by promotion.

One time the brigade was tolling Averell with a superior force from Bunker Hill to Winchester for our infantry to attend to and rebuke his impertinence. It met Ramsuer's division a few miles north of Winchester and pulled out to the right and left to give it place. The infantry went at the enemy end-foremost, instead of deployed in line, and a part of it was thrown into confusion, and were being ruthlessly ridden down by

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LL US-1864, and the skirmishers daily enter-From Partained each other. The 19th Virginia L. N. C cavalry under command of Captain phur du McNeel, held an important road that From ran perpendicular to the lines, and was for 5 ac John a mile or more to the left of the balance 'r to 56 poles of the brigade. As I approached the once-From regiment one evening, bearing a mesf and Charles sage from General Wm. L. Jackson to tition Lewisb the Captain, a thundering roar was From als. heard just beyond in the direction of Yates, of the enemy, and the earth shook and Nov. in the l ing Spi trembled. Soon the head of a column it the Fron of Yankee troopers appeared on the E. Fir Snyroad in full charge upon our ranks .two tra y B. They came bravely on, but only a few Sulphu of their riderless horses got through. ounts dis-The 19th never flinched at their appall-Fron E. Huf coning array, but poured in a deadly volley in Blue that stampeded them, leaving Lieutenlderant Colonel Bell, their leader, and a es.-USEI number of his followers dead on the Alfield. AFRIC. ions. known The repulse of this attack has been land claimed by others, among them Major of the Harry Gilmore of the Maryland Batrebel G lack. 1897, fr talion, but Captain McNeel did it .er of That the truth of history may he vindiwrites: aying cated and credit go where it belongs is campai on of berlain my excuse for obtruding self as an eve

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ing array, but poured in a deadly yolley that stampeded them, leaving Lieutenant Colonel Bell, their leader, and a number of his followers dead on the field.

The repulse of this attack has been claimed by others, among them Major Harry Gilmore of the Maryland Battalion, but Captain McNeel did it .-That the truth of history may he vindicated and credit go where it belongs is my excuse for obtruding self as an eye witness into this sketch.

Captain McNeel was full of humor and enjoyed a joke to his utmost capacity. Early's army was moving down the pike toward Shepherdstown, and Captain McNeel, in command of the 19th, lead the advance. About ten miles south of Shepherdstown he encountered Sheridan's famous cayalry corps, who were taken by surprise and put up a bold fight to gain time to get their camp equipage to the rear. The n.- skirmish was getting lively and "Old Jube" rode forward and asked the Captain what was before him.

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"From the way they are pressing us, I think they are pretty strong, General," replied the Captain.

"By -," drawled Old Jube, "may be they think there ain't much in front of them." Captain McNeel enjoyed telling this.

But enough, lest I impose on your generosity, Mr. Editor, and overstep all bounds and with the garrulity of an old soldier consume space in recounting the Captain's exploits on the scout, on the march and in the skirmish and the battle during the two eventful years from the spring of 1863 to the surrender in 1865.

JOHN N. LYLE.

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